ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An automation system has a work drive unit (22), in which work programs (14, 16, 18, 20) and work data (15, 17, 19) are stored. It also has a back-up drive unit (12). By means of a back-up program (20), a back-up copy (23, 24) of at least part of the work programs (14, 16, 18, 20) and work data (15, 17, 19) can be stored in the back-up drive unit (12). As a result, the part of the work programs (14, 16, 18, 20) and work data (15, 17, 19) can be restored again if required.